

RIVERWAYS

Riverways NewsNotes #14

February 11, 2005

An electronic newsletter from the Massachusetts Riverways Program, <http://www.massriverways.org>

A brief recap of Riverways' work in 2004 and focus for 2005:

Going beyond site-specific projects to look at watershed-wide activities impacting instream health, and taking action to restore natural processes to riverine ecosystems

Dear River Advocates,

As you (may) know, each edition of Riverways *NewsNotes* typically includes a lead article on some aspect(s) of river protection, restoration and/or stewardship, followed by a **Resources and Grants** section that Russ Cohen assembles. *NewsNotes* #14's first section highlights Riverways' work and accomplishments over the past year, then follows with a richer than usual Resources and Grants compilation. We hope that you will be able to make much use of this latter section with its extensive listings of engaging programs, helpful web sites, interesting books, links to watershed groups and ongoing issues as well as funding opportunities. Topics covered in *NewsNotes* #14's Resources and Grants include stream restoration, environmental health, core habitats, politics of dam removal, open space, headwater streams and runoff. As usual, some of the items in this section (such as **grant application deadlines** and the **Calendar**) are very **time-sensitive**. As always, please feel free to share our *NewsNotes* with interested partners.

Here's a brief update about Riverways: In January of every year, as part of our planning for the upcoming year, Riverways staff reviews our work over the preceding year in part to see how we can adapt our programs to better meet the current needs of river systems and the river constituency. This year, once again, we are impressed with all that we have learned from you and the opportunities that working with you bring for our staff.

One of the things we have learned from our restoration experiences is that our work --whether it be on dam removal, culvert retrofits, flow, or water quality—needs to look beyond site-specific issues to consider them

in a more holistic, ecosystem-based context and perspective.

River Restore, one of our most innovative programs, has been dedicated to reconnecting natural and cultural river communities by selective removal of dams and other obstructions since 1999. Collaborating with dam owners, federal, state, local and nonprofit partners, River Restore led or co-led efforts to remove dams in Dalton MA, Plymouth MA and Becket MA. In addition to initiating both **River Continuity** and the **Environmental Risk Index**, River Restore staff has worked on holistic watershed projects, such as the Neponset River, where they have taken a comprehensive approach to restoring fish passage and instream habitat while developing a strategy to remediate contaminated sediment (including a special outreach project funded this year by the **Mass. Environmental Trust**). As River Restore completes its pilot projects, River Restore staff roles are changing, as described below.

In the meantime, one of our cornerstone programs, **Adopt-A-Stream**, has expanded its work to help communities with even more stream surveying tools and implementation projects, and is integrating the expertise of all of our staff in community-based projects. Adopt-A-Stream staff, Rachel Calabro, Amy Singler and Carrie Banks, bring technical, planning and community-organizing expertise to river restoration projects. Adopt-A-Stream staff continues to work on **River Continuity**, training volunteers to identify culverts that create barriers to fish and wildlife passage in and along rivers and streams, and working on demonstration projects in the Westfield River and Taunton River Watersheds to restore more natural conditions at road crossings over streams.

Adopt-A-Stream is also working with Stream Teams in two watersheds—South Coastal and Connecticut—on a social marketing project to encourage awareness of the connection between stormwater and stream health through the actual installation of small non-point-source BMPs. Part of the project, completed this past fall, included community surveys and focus groups to determine the extent of awareness and identify the barriers and motivations to changing habits and implementing projects to reduce stormwater and benefit nearby streams (funded this year by a federal \$319 grant through DEP).

We are pleased that Brian Graber, a fluvial geomorphologist, has joined our staff. Brian provides on-site assessments of projects in the context of how watershed-wide activities can impact instream health and what steps (if any) are necessary to help restore more healthy, natural processes to river and stream ecosystems. His work has included in-depth field measurements, technical assistance and conceptual restoration plans for 3 projects, provided technical advice to communities and partners on 17 different potential restoration projects as well as spearheading efforts to retrofit culverts for River Continuity. On selected projects, Riverways can give diagnostic help to see where problems exist on a subwatershed basis, find root causes, and determine solutions that will protect the ecological integrity of streams.

Riverways will now evaluate and undertake riparian restoration projects through a new initiative we are calling the **Stream Restoration Team** that draws on the expertise of several Riverways staff members.

While River Restore will cease to function as such, the lessons learned from River Restore will be carried forward and put to good use in this and other Riverways efforts such as River Continuity and Environmental Risk. Of course, Riverways will continue existing programs like Adopt-A-Stream and the

River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS), a first-in-the-nation program to provide citizen-gathered sound science to flow monitoring, and Technical Assistance on water quality issues, bioremediation, trails, public access, regulations and permits.

Karen Peltó will continue to work on some projects begun under River Restore while taking on selected additional projects with a new title of Special Projects Coordinator. Her current projects include: ecological restoration and contaminant remediation in the lower Neponset River, and the Assabet River study of sediment abatement options, including dam removal, to reduce phosphorous loadings, where she will serve as a member of the Assabet River study coordination team. This team has been developed through an memorandum of understanding between Mass. DEP and the Assabet River Consortium. Karen will also continue her work with the Yokum Brook restoration in Becket. Restoration projects across the state will benefit from her continued service on the **Mass. Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership** board of directors as well as contributions to selected policy initiatives.

In the meantime, Riverways' Stream Restoration Team will take on one or two pilots that provide a holistic look at subwatershed restoration including dam removal. This approach will bring together Riverways staff with expertise on policy, flow, water quality, geomorphology, geology, biology and regulations and provide new opportunities for restoration. We will provide you with additional information on this new initiative as the year progresses.

Riverways Staff had an amazingly productive year in 2004. We invite you to see our highlights in the next section of *NewsNotes*. These highlights have been gleaned from our 2004 Annual Report that will soon be on our web page (<http://www.massriverways.org>).

We hope to see many of you at the **Annual Meeting** of the **Massachusetts Watershed Coalition** on **Sat. February 26** from 8:30AM to 3:00PM in Leominster (see more info in the **Calendar** section below). This year's meeting focuses on the emerging framework for proactive watershed management in Massachusetts and features **EOEA Undersecretary for Policy Jim Stergios**, who will welcome your ideas for partnering with state and local governments to implement the recently-enacted **Massachusetts Water Policy** (see <http://www.mass.gov/envir/wptf/final.htm>).

And then on to March and the **MACC Conference**, the **Mass. Land Conservation**, the **Westfield Symposium** (all of which include Riverways staff as presenters), and...****save the date**** - on **Friday, April 29**, Riverways and partners will be hosting a **Stream Flow Restoration Conference**—we hope you can attend (more about that in the next *NewsNotes*).

See you on the rivers (skating or skiing perhaps?) -

Joan Kimball, Director

P.S. If these e-mail *NewsNotes* were forwarded to you by someone else and you would like to receive them directly, please let us know. Additionally (or alternatively), if the format of the e-mail version of these

NewsNotes is in an incompatible format to your computer's e-mail program, we encourage you to read the on-line version of Riverways *NewsNotes* posted (soon if not already) on our web page (www.massriverways.org). All previous *NewsNotes* are also available on-line. Highlighted topics of past *NewsNotes* include: The importance of protecting smaller streams, Collaboration for Water Resources Protection, Living Waters, Assessing Dams for Environmental Risks, River Continuity, River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS), Fishway Stewardship, Nonpoint Source projects, Adopt-A-Stream Technical Service Awards, and River Restore's Neponset Project.



Massachusetts Riverways Program - Highlights of 2004

River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS) – volunteer stream flow data collection

Doubled the number of volunteers and streams in the first-in-the-nation *River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS) Program* and maintained the stream flow database with 2,366 measurements from over 40 volunteers

Adopt-A-Stream – watershed surveys & restoration

Worked with over 28 *Adopt-A-Stream* Teams and 22 other groups to involve over 164 volunteers in 40 different communities in 18 watersheds in surveys, education, public access and restoration projects

River Continuity – fish passage through culverts

Worked with partners, to train over 50 volunteers who surveyed 665 road crossings in the Housatonic, Westfield and Taunton Watersheds

River Continuity – pilot culvert designs

Worked with partners to design innovative culvert retrofits that promote fish and wildlife passage in and along Tower Brook in the Westfield River watershed

Fitchburg Urban Rivers Charrette & River Revitalization Plan

Sponsored workshop that brought together 45 residents and city officials to develop a master plan for the North Nashua River to identify brownfield reuse, recreational opportunities and improved access. Fitchburg was subsequently awarded a Self-Help grant to implement a trail along the river, included in the plan. The river master plan was recently submitted for consideration for an award from the Boston Society of Landscape Architects.

Environmental Literacy for the Neponset River

Building environmental literacy and community involvement in decision-making for ecological restoration and remediation of PCBs in the lower Neponset River

Technologies for Pollution Remediation

Sponsored a workshop at the *20th Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, and Water* (UMass Amherst) to explore available and emerging technologies for remediating contaminated sediment in the lower Neponset River

Innovative Stormwater and Wastewater Management Facilities in the Blackstone Watershed

Coordinated a project supporting innovative stormwater and wastewater management facilities to address infrastructure constraints and facilitate smart growth in the Blackstone watershed

Environmental Risk Index – prioritizing failing dams

National model for evaluating natural resource impacts of dams and potential contaminant levels in sediment impounded behind dams in the state's 27 major watersheds

Volunteer GIS Ground-truthing

Trained volunteers, in partnership with watershed associations, to “ground truth” GIS dam and road crossing data in the Neponset and Westfield River watersheds

Technical Assistance to Communities

Assisted over 200 municipal officials, citizens, and citizen groups in 30 watersheds on riverine and watershed protection and restoration issues and initiatives

River Restoration Projects

Provided in-depth field measurement, technical review, and conceptual restoration plans for 3 projects in the Chicopee, Taunton, and South Coastal Watersheds

Advised and facilitated 17 restoration projects involving dams and provided watershed assessment technical assistance in 8 watersheds

Social Marketing for River Stewardship

With funding from a federal Section 319 grant (through DEP), *Adopt-A-Stream* sponsored focus groups, and surveys in the Connecticut and South Coastal watershed to determine how to broaden wider acceptance of storm water best management practices to benefit rivers

Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers

Worked with Wild and Scenic Committee to double the size of the Westfield River Wild and Scenic designation

Facilitated *Stream Team* Action Plans, an integral part of the Taunton River Wild and Scenic Stewardship Plan

Technical Assistance to Partners

Provided grant writing, project review, and strategic planning assistance to partners, including The Nature Conservancy, Massachusetts Instream Flow Task Force, USGS, Trout Unlimited, Bridgewater State Water Access Lab, UMass and others

Project Reviews

Provided technical assistance, review and comments on Watershed Action Plans, Water Management Plans, NPDES Permits, MEPA documents, EOE's new Water Policy, etc.

Riverways NewsNotes – electronic newsletter

Provided information on major river issues including an extensive Resources and Grants section to assist river advocates and constituents. Five issues of *NewsNotes* were sent out in 2004.

Conferences and Workshops

Originated, facilitated and/or presented innovative techniques for river restoration at statewide conferences

Grants

Online Resources

Calendar

Publications

Grants

Associated Grant Makers' Services for Grant Seekers

<http://www.agmconnect.org/GrantSeekers/overview.htm>

Founded in 1969, Associated Grant Makers, Inc. (AGM) is the only regional association of grant makers, both foundations and corporations with giving programs, serving in, or making grants in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. AGM's mission is to support the practice and expansion of effective philanthropic giving to build strong, healthy communities. This work encompasses strengthening the capacity of nonprofit organizations through resources, skill building, and partnerships that go beyond traditional grant dollars. AGM offers grant seekers educational programs, access to online resources and the **AGM Grant Makers Directory** (2005 edition will soon be available – see <http://notes.agmconnect.org/agmdorder.nsf/order>), and the **Resource Center for Philanthropy**. Nonprofit organizations and those seeking grants utilize AGM's Resource Center for Philanthropy to: identify potential sources of grants matching their programmatic, geographic, and population focus; research local and national foundations, corporate giving programs, and community funders; and gain free access to materials on all aspects of philanthropy and nonprofit management, including fundraising, board development, and proposal writing. Although on-line access to some portions of AGM's resources are made available only to Partners at the Associate (\$250/yr) or higher level, the Grant Makers Directory and AGM's extensive library can be accessed in person at its Resource Center for Philanthropy in Boston (see address below). For more info, contact the AGM at 55 Court Street, Suite 520, Boston, MA 02108, (617) 426-2606, (617) 426-2849 (fax), agm@agmconnect.org. [One of AGM's donor members, **Grants Management Associates**, manages a number of private foundations, some of which maintain their own individual web pages (see <http://www.grantsmanagement.com/funders.html>). For more info, contact: Grants Management Associates, 77 Summer Street, Suite 800,

Boston, MA 02110-1006, (617) 426-7080, (617) 426-7087 (fax), philanthropy@grantsmanagement.com.]

Beldon Fund

<http://www.beldon.org>

The Beldon Fund's "vision for the future is a planet with healthy people living in healthy ecosystems...By supporting effective, nonprofit advocacy organizations, the Beldon Fund seeks to build a national consensus to achieve and sustain a healthy planet. The Fund plans to invest its entire principal and earnings by 2009 to attain this goal...After three decades of progress protecting our environment, we have reached a critical moment. With daunting environmental challenges still ahead, we face the prospect of losing momentum and the environmental gains we have already made. Now is the time to act." The Fund's web page features an innovative on-line "**Eligibility Quiz**" to help prospective applicants determine if there's a good fit between their funding needs and the Fund's areas of interest. These include: environmental health advocacy work that helps show the public the connection between toxic chemicals and health and substantially involves doctors, nurses, public health professionals, health-affected people, parents or teachers; and projects that support training and development of youth leaders in the environmental justice movement, such as youth organizing and leadership programs involving young people in civic engagement activities. Letters of inquiry are due **March 2, 2005**.

Common Stream

<http://www.commonstream.org/index.html>

Common Stream makes grants to nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations in the U.S. in five main areas: Defense of Wild Areas; Environmental Justice; Economic Justice; Youth Organizing and Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Rights. Common Stream gives priority to supporting organizations that use community organizing as a primary strategy for effecting change. Its geographical focus is New England, although some grants are made to national organizations and organizations based in other parts of the country. Although Common Stream does not accept unsolicited funding proposals, the foundation invites funding requests from organizations that it identifies as matching its interests and criteria. For more information, contact: Program Director Peter Snoad, Common Stream, P.O. Box 757, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, (617) 522-6858, (617) 971-0029 (fax), or info@commonstream.org.

FishAmerica Foundation (FAF)

<http://www.fishamerica.org/faf>

FAF unites the sportfishing industry with conservation groups, government natural resource agencies, corporations, and charitable foundations to invest in fish and habitat conservation and research across the country. It supports fisheries conservation and research in the best way by providing matching grants that empower citizen conservationists in their own communities. FAF and the **NOAA Restoration Center** (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/>) recently announced the availability of up to \$600,000 for hands-on, grassroots projects across the coastal United States to restore marine, estuarine and riparian habitats, including salt marshes and freshwater habitats important to anadromous fish species. Community-based nonprofit organizations, such as local sporting clubs and conservation associations, as well as state and local agencies are encouraged to submit proposals. Projects must result in on-the-ground habitat restoration, clearly demonstrate significant benefits to marine, estuarine or anadromous fisheries resources,

particularly sportfish, and must involve community participation through an educational or volunteer component tied to the restoration activities. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate the participation of NOAA staff to strengthen the development and implementation of sound restoration projects. Application deadline is **Tuesday, February 25, 2005**; visit the website above for the complete announcement, funding guidelines and application. Contact Jeff Bloem [(703) 519-9691 ext.247, jbloem@asafishing.org] with any questions or concerns regarding the application process.

Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program

<http://www.nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.htm>

The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. EPA, the Community-Based Restoration Program within NOAA Fisheries, and other sponsors, are pleased to solicit applications for the **Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program**. The program provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach and training activities. In 2004, 50 projects received grants of on average \$10,000 out of approximately 180 applications received. The Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program is open to any public or private entity. Applicants should complete the application form at the website above, including project narrative and budget request. Applications must be postmarked by **March 1, 2005**; applicants will be notified of their awards in mid-June. More info is available on-line at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star/>.

Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation's Forest Stewardship for Watershed Health Grants <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/urbanGrants.htm>

The DCR's **Urban and Community Forestry Program** is offering grants to support planning and education projects that "Promote Community Forest Stewardship for Watershed Health." Matching grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to successful municipalities, planning agencies, watershed associations, and other non-profits. Up to \$30,000 is available through this program. The deadline for proposals is **February 18, 2005**. Download the application at the link above or contact Eric Seaborn (617) 626-1468 or eric.seaborn@state.ma.us for more info.

Mass. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)'s 2005 Water Loss Prevention Grant Program

<http://www.comm-pass.com>

Mass. DEP's Water Loss Prevention Program provides matching funds to assist public water systems and municipalities in **addressing drinking water losses through local water audits, leak detection projects, water conservation plans, and GIS mapping, and the implementation of improved accounting of water use including tracking by specific withdrawal types**. The program will provide grants of up to \$40,000 for project cost reimbursement (a minimum 25% match is required). A total of \$400,000 is expected to be available during this funding round. Priority will be given to: public water systems with Water Management Act registrations or permits who are undergoing a 5-year review during FY2005; public water systems that withdraw a significant volume of their supply from within a medium- or highly-stressed basin (see info about stressed basins on the Mass. Water Resource Commission's website: <http://www.state.ma>.

[us/envir/mwrc/pdf/Massachusetts_Stressed_Basins.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/river/newsnotesfebruary05.htm)); those systems with an identified problem meeting demand (DEP-authorized Emergency Declaration); those with a significant environmental concern (e.g. drying up a nearby stream) reflected on their specific WMA permit conditions that would benefit by a reduction in demand; projects that incorporate a watershed approach to reducing water loss; and public water systems with water pricing policies that strongly encourage conservation. Application materials may be requested from, and all proposals must be submitted to: Malcolm M. Harper, DEP, 627 Main Street-2nd Floor, Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 767-2745, Malcolm.Harper@state.ma.us, and received no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, March 14, 2005**. The Request for Responses (RFR) and other materials relating to this grant program is also available on-line at the website above; click on the "Search for solicitations" link and then type in "BRP 2005-02" into the "Document Number" box.

Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's Landowner Incentive Program (LIP)

http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfw_lip.htm

Privately owned lands provide important fish and wildlife habitat in Massachusetts. Over 80% of the landbase in the Commonwealth is privately owned. Restoring and maintaining habitat on these lands is essential because so many species depend upon them for survival. Species conservation goals cannot be fully achieved by focusing effort solely on public lands. To address this issue, the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) applied for and succeeded in securing \$2 million in federal funds to establish its Landowner Incentive Program and launch the LIP grants program, which is currently seeking qualified applicants to create and/or restore high quality wildlife habitat on private lands in the Commonwealth. Eligible applicants include persons, businesses, land trusts and other owners and/or managers of private lands. Eligible lands include land not owned by the State or Federal government. If the land is determined to be eligible, the applicant must own or have control of the land for the duration of the agreement period (at least ten years) to qualify for funding. Eligible projects include those that: identify and reclaim appropriate sites for management of declining habitats (especially open land: old field and agricultural land, peat bogs (fens), beach and pine barrens); manage and control exotic and invasive plants; and enhance wildlife habitat for rare species. Typical grants to be awarded will be between \$10,000 and \$50,000, reimbursing landowners up to 75% of the cost (i.e., a minimum 25% match is required). Applications must be received before noon on **Tuesday, March 15, 2005** at the DFW Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Rd. Westborough, MA 01581. For more info, contact LIP Director Ken MacKenzie at (508) 792-7270 ext.113, or Ken.MacKenzie@state.ma.us.

Norcross Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.norcrossws.org/Foundation%20Infor/Foundmain.html>

A by-product of the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary, established in 1939 by greeting card entrepreneur Arthur D. Norcross, the Norcross Wildlife Foundation's mission is "to...protect wild land wherever it is threatened; to propagate, establish, restore and maintain populations of threatened and endangered plants native to New England; to provide the public with educational programs in natural and environmental science; and to support, through grants, gifts, easements and loans-for-land, the activities of a national and international constituency of not-for-profit wildlife conservation organizations". Small grassroots organizations, with limited staff and ability to raise funds, will be the Foundation's primary constituency. Applicants must be §501(c)(3) organizations; average grant size is less than \$ 5,000. Prospective applicants

should download and submit the short application form on Norcross' web page; within thirty days, you will be notified if your request has been accepted for consideration. For more info, write to: Grants Administrator, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, P.O. Box 269, Wales MA 01081.

Prospect Hill Foundation

<http://fdncenter.org/grantmaker/prospecthill/intro.html>

The Prospect Hill Foundation is a private foundation established in New York in 1960 by William S. Beinecke, then president and now the retired chairman of the Sperry and Hutchinson Company (i.e. S&H Green Stamps). In 1983, the Prospect Hill Foundation merged with the Frederick W. Beinecke Fund, which had been established by the will of William S. Beinecke's father and was later augmented by the will of Carrie Sperry Beinecke, his mother. Foundation grant priorities in the area of Environmental Conservation are the conservation of significant private and public lands and the improvement of water quality and protection of coastal areas. Although unsolicited requests for support are not normally considered, invited applicants may submit proposals to Laura Callanan, Executive Director, at lcallanan@prospect-hill.org. For more info, contact the Foundation at 99 Park Ave., Suite 2220, New York, NY 10016-1601, (212) 370-1165.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Coastal Program

<http://www.fws.gov/cep/grantsgov05coastal.pdf>

The USFWS's "Coastal Program" provides financial and technical assistance for coastal habitat conservation, including coastal riverine and estuarine habitat conservation. Projects are generally limited to 16 Coastal Program focus areas [for New England, the relevant focus areas are the Gulf of Maine (<http://gulfofmaine.fws.gov/>) and the Southern New England/New York Bight (<http://www.fws.gov/r5sneq/index.htm>)]. Projects may include habitat assessment and habitat restoration. Applicants need to contact their respective Coastal Program office (see below) for more details, including **application deadlines**. The Coastal Program is being funded at \$11.6 million in FY 2005; of this amount about half, \$5.8 million, will be available for on-the-ground project funding. More info about the Coastal Program and the FY05 grant announcement is posted at the website above. Contact info for Gulf of Maine Coastal Program: Stewart Fefer, 4 R Fundy Road, Falmouth, ME 04105, (207) 781-8364, (207) 781-8369 (fax), FW5ES_GOMP@fws.gov; contact info for Southern New England/New York Bight Coastal Program: Don Henne, Box 307, Charlestown, RI 02813, (401) 364-9124, (401) 364-0170 (fax), fw5es_snenybcep@fws.gov.

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ON-LINE RESOURCES

Getting information out to end users on **new and innovative technologies for wastewater and stormwater management** can boost local and state efforts to protect and enhance water quality. Area engineers, consultants, municipal officials, and others are frequently unaware of the broad range of technologies that are available to either enhance or replace more conventional approaches to stormwater and on-site wastewater management. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and the US EPA

(through its **Center for Environmental Industry & Technology, CEIT**) have been collaborating since 1997 on a series of regional and state-based trade shows to disseminate information on innovative technologies and practices. The highly popular one-day shows have been translated into a web-based format in order to meet repeated requests to make the information more widely available. Information is set out in a fact sheet format that details system specifications, site and pretreatment requirements, costs, maintenance needs, and other factors useful for evaluating and selecting a system appropriate to local conditions. This on-line **Storm Water and Wastewater Virtual Trade Show** is accessible via EPA Region One New England's website at <http://www.epa.gov/ne/assistance/ceitts/index.html>.

On a similar (stormwater) note: To assist the 5000 municipalities that are currently building programs to prevent and control stormwater pollution, EPA has developed 17 case studies that highlight successful municipal approaches to the six minimum measures that are outlined in the **NPDES Stormwater Phase II** regulations. Most of the case studies are drawn from local governments that implemented the Stormwater Phase I requirements in the 1990s. The stormwater case studies can be viewed at www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/casestudies.

On a similar (wastewater) note: On January 12, the U.S. EPA formalized an agreement with several organizations that focus on septic systems to **improve the management of decentralized wastewater treatment systems** that currently serve a quarter of the nation's homes and are used in about one-third of all new housing and commercial development. When properly sited, designed and maintained, these systems are capable of producing high quality wastewater. However, poorly sited and/or managed decentralized systems are the second greatest threat to groundwater quality, second only to leakage from underground storage tanks. It is estimated that, nationwide, 10-20% percent of decentralized systems are not adequately treating wastewater due to inadequate site location, design and maintenance. Visit <http://cfpub.epa.gov/owm/septic/home.cfm> for more info about the effort and EPA's work in this area. Incidentally, one of the most important means of prolonging the life of a septic system, preventing failure (back-ups into the house or breakouts to the surface of the leaching field) and minimizing the discharge of residual pollutants to surface and groundwater is to **practice water conservation** (see, e.g., <http://www.septic-info.com/doc/display/32.html>, <http://www.extension.umn.edu/info-u/environment/BD295.html>, http://wehomeinspect.com/septic_systems.htm and <http://waterhome.brc.tamus.edu/texasyst/household.html>).

A new on-line, distance learning training module called **Growth and Water Resources** has recently been posted on **EPA's Watershed Academy** webpage (<http://www.epa.gov/watertrain/smartgrowth>). This training module explains how changes in land use affect water resources, and presents national data on trends in development patterns and activities on land that have become increasingly significant challenges for achieving water quality standards. The module describes a combination of approaches to accommodate future growth in a way that benefits the economy and the environment while helping to meet water resource goals. The module also includes a "tools" section with links to on-line resources. Another recent addition to the Watershed Academy is a course on the **Fundamentals of the Rosgen Stream Classification System**, which summarizes the basic Level 1 and Level 2 techniques for classifying stream channel types according to the Rosgen classification system, which is one of the most widely used methods for stream

classification in the country. The popularity of this system is due to its basis in fluvial geomorphology and natural stream formative processes, its use of common geomorphic principles and field measurement techniques, its relationship to stability or instability of the stream channel and channel evolution, and relating all of the above to stream restoration principles and practices. FYI, the EPA's Watershed Academy on-line training and certificate program gives users free access to a valuable array of watershed topics in over fifty separate modules, all peer reviewed and designed for user friendliness. Enough material exists in these modules to provide at least six weeks (!) worth of training. A free CD version that includes 44 of the modules is available to those who might have limited or slow Internet access. For more info, please contact Jamal Kadri at kadri.jamal@epa.gov.

EPA Region One New England provides several means for keeping up to speed with environmental matters in the region. **In the News** (<http://www.epa.gov/region1/inthenews/index.html>) provides daily on-line access to top newspaper stories about the New England environment and links to related information. **Greenbytes** (<http://www.epa.gov/region1/ra/gb/subscribe.html>), a free electronic newsletter that EPA Region One e-mails to subscribers on a more-or-less weekly basis, includes a timely feature story on a specific environmental issue, listings of upcoming meetings, press releases and information on Region One's newest web pages.

While the last edition of *NewsNotes* (#13) highlighted the **state's Low Impact Development** (LID) web page (<http://www.mass.gov/envir/lid/>) this one focuses on the **EPA's LID** page (<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid>), which contains information on the EPA's efforts in this area as well as links to non-EPA resources such as the **Department of Defense** (DoD)'s recently-published 105-page document entitled "*Design: Low Impact Development Manual*". This document is authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Chief of the Engineering and Construction Division, top engineers of the Navy and Air Force, and a senior official in the Department of Defense and is intended to be used for all DoD projects and work for other customers where appropriate. Thus we may expect to see the use of LID techniques ramped up in future DoD facilities development projects. Moreover, as various contractors work with the DoD facilities and are directed to use LID techniques in their work, familiarity with the benefits of LID and the various techniques that are available should continue to grow nationwide.

The **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Ecosystem Management and Restoration Research Program** (EMRRP) has put out a number of useful technical publications on various aspects of riparian area protection and management, most of which are accessible on-line. These include: *Landscaping Considerations for Urban Stream Restoration Projects* (<http://el.erdc.usace.army.mil/elpubs/pdf/sr42.pdf>); *Width of Riparian Zones for Birds* (<http://el.erdc.usace.army.mil/elpubs/pdf/si09.pdf>) and *Design Recommendations for Riparian Corridors and Vegetated Buffer Strips*" (<http://el.erdc.usace.army.mil/elpubs/pdf/sr24.pdf>). The latter document, prepared in April of 2000 by Richard J. Fischer and Craig Fischenich of the Army Corps' R&D Center's Environmental Lab in Vicksburg, MS, is particularly good, as it summarizes and references many studies on various vegetated buffer widths needed to achieve various purposes.

The U.S Forest Service's publication entitled *A Soil Bioengineering Guide for Streambank and Lakeshore*

Stabilization (FS-683, October 2002), is available on-line at <http://www.fs.fed.us/publications/soil-bio-guide>. This guide provides information on how to successfully plan and implement shoreline stabilization project using soil bioengineering techniques (see p.4 of <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/river/pdf/rivnlsu01.pdf> for background information on this topic). Basic principles and background information on ecology and the stream dynamics needed before attempting a restoration project are also presented. [FYI: The *Guide* contains wonderful color glossy photos and graphics, and you may be so favorably impressed with it that you will want your own hard copy, which you can request by sending an e-mail to mailroom_wo_sdtcd@fs.fed.us].

“*Logical Lasting Launches: Design Guidance For Canoe And Kayak Launches*”, the title of a 117-page guidebook put out by the **National Park Service’s Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program**, offers guidance for designing canoe and kayak launches for a variety of access sites. Descriptions, designs, and photos of launches are grouped into eleven chapters, according to type, with focus on the point of entry onto the water. Chapter I presents five important factors to consider when designing a launch and discusses the relevance of location and water body characteristics to choosing an appropriate launch type for a particular access site. Chapter II provides a quick reference chart to assist with choosing a launch type that can accommodate conditions or characteristics specific to an access site. Chapters IV-X provide detailed information on a variety of launch types, including case examples, designs, photos – where these launch types have worked! Chapter XI discusses several design options for access in environmentally sensitive areas. *Logical Lasting Launches* is accessible on-line in .pdf format at <http://nps.gov/rtca/helpfultools/launchguide.pdf>.

With all the precipitation we’ve experienced during the last few months, there is the potential for flooding damage when the warmer weather returns in the spring. The **Heritage Emergency National Task Force’s** website (<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/programs/taskfer.htm>) provides information on how to protect historic documents and other valuable resources from water-related damage.

Massachusetts hunting, fishing and sporting licenses for 2005 are now available for purchase on-line at the **MassOutdoors** site (accessible via <http://www.masswildlife.org> – click on the “Buy a License Online” button.) Outdoor recreation enthusiasts can also use the MassOutdoors website to conduct other business such as purchasing recreational lobster permits and renewing motorboat, ATV and snowmobile registrations. Temporary licenses and registrations may be printed at time of purchase and are valid for 10 days. The temporary documents allow the bearer to hunt small game, fish or go boating as soon as the ink is dry. Permanent licenses or registrations are mailed within 5 business days of the date of sale and are valid for the remainder of the calendar year. Due to physical documentation requirements, individuals who are eligible for free licenses (e.g. age 70 or older, handicapped, etc.) cannot obtain licenses through MassOutdoors; conversely, minors ages 15-17 may only obtain fishing licenses through the website. Questions may be directed to the MassOutdoors Help Desk at (617) 626-1600 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during normal business hours, or via e-mail at Mass.Outdoors@state.ma.us. **For those who wish to support wildlife conservation** other than (or in addition to) buying a sporting license, info about donating to the state **Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Fund** can be found on-line at <http://>

www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhmissn.htm (scroll to the bottom), and info about donating to the state **Wildlands Fund** for habitat land protection is at (<http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfwInd.htm#HELP>).

Have you ever wondered which special habitats or rare species sites need protecting in your town? MassWildlife's **Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program** (NH&ESP) has released **new town Core Habitat maps and reports** to help town officials, land trusts and other interested conservationists. Town-specific reports, along with a large color town map, were recently mailed to municipal Conservation Commissions, Planning Boards, Community Preservation Act Committees, Community Development Plan Committees, and town-based Land Trusts. The Town Core Habitat Reports provide a summary of the rare species, natural communities, and freshwater habitats found in the Core Habitats identified in 336 of the Commonwealth's 351 towns. Core Habitats are critical sites identified as important for the long-term survival of Massachusetts' biodiversity in the **BioMap** and **Living Waters** reports produced by the NH&ESP. These two conservation plans, produced over the last 4 years based on 25 years of Natural Heritage data, were supported by special bond funding provided by the Mass. Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and by State Wildlife Grants from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. To read your town's Core Habitat report, go on-line to <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhconsmap.htm>. Large, color Core Habitat maps for your town can be ordered for a nominal fee by going on-line to <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhpubs.htm#newpubs>. For more information about this project, contact Chloë Stuart at (508) 792-7270 ext. 301 or Chloe.Stuart@state.ma.us.

Invasive Plants of the Eastern United States: Identification and Control is available on-line at <http://www.invasive.org/eastern> or a free CD-ROM. It includes .pdf files and Internet links to recent publications by the USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA APHIS PPQ and the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council. This CD-ROM covers identification characteristics, distribution, and control options for 97 tree, shrub, vine, grass, fern, forb and aquatic plant species that are invading the eastern United States, many of which are problematic in New England. For each species, a menu of control options is presented, including mechanical treatments, specific herbicide prescriptions, and, for selected species, recent advances in biological control. Requests for copies of the CD should be sent to Lisa Cress at lcress@fs.fed.us.

“Are our rivers, lakes, and ponds clean? Is the water coming out of the tap safe to drink? Are our wetlands being preserved?” The answers to these and other wetlands and water-related questions of human health and environmental concern are now addressed at the **Mass. Department of Environmental Protection** (DEP)'s **new Environmental Progress Report (EPR) web site** (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/epp/epphome.htm>). The site provides a PowerPoint presentation explaining how the EPR differs from what DEP has done before, and why the agency thinks this new direction will dramatically increase its effectiveness in improving environmental protection and human health. The EPR web site currently focuses on three programmatic goals: **Safe and Sufficient Drinking Water** (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/epp/dw/dwhome.htm>); **Assure Clean Water and Sufficient Water for Healthy Ecosystems** (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/epp/sg/sggwhome.htm>); and **Intact Functioning Wetlands** (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/epp/sg/sggwhome.htm>).

dep/brp/epp/wet/wethome.htm). For each, the steps necessary to achieving the goal are listed. Each step has three levels of information: an indicator of condition and a one-page, easy-to-understand description of why it is important and how DEP is doing; a work plan that analyzes the indicator data, describes the strong performance the agency is seeking to maintain, and outlines areas where DEP is using environmental information to drive changes in the agency's work; and links to more detailed information, from DEP databases to other relevant websites. For more info, contact Sandra Rabb at sandra.rabb@state.ma.us or at (617) 556-1154.

Non-Governmental On-Line Resources

Back the Brookie

<http://www.brookie.org>

Native to waters from Georgia to Maine, the **Eastern Brook Trout** (*Salvelinus fontinalis*, affectionately known as the "brookie") is considered "America's fish" by many...a remnant of days gone by, when all streams and rivers were pure and crystal clear...flowing freely through lush forests and natural landscapes. The current decline of native brook trout signals a decline in watershed health - and unhealthy watersheds cannot provide clean water, a basic necessity for life. **Trout Unlimited** (TU)'s "Back the Brookie" Campaign is a movement to conserve, protect, and restore this natural resource jewel. Back the Brookie combines the best of TU - passionate, dedicated, grassroots volunteers with professional fisheries staff - to work towards the brook trout's future and the health of our watersheds. This webpage extols the many virtues of the species *per se* as well as its important role as an indicator of stream and watershed health. On a similar note: "*The New England Brook Trout: Protecting a Fish, Restoring a Region*," (available on-line at http://www.tu.org/pdf/home/Trout_casestmt_FINAL.pdf) a report issued by TU last November, examines the combined effects of acid rain, sprawl, forest loss, mismanagement, dwindling clean water supplies and invasive species on New England's wild brook trout. The report also explores ways that citizens can involve themselves in the brook trout restoration effort in each of the New England states. For hard copies of the report, please contact Sally Armstrong at (703) 284-9410. A press release about the report can be read on-line at http://www.tu.org/newsstand/press_release/detail.asp?pr_id=2001011952.

CitizenSpeak

<http://www.citizenspeak.org>

CitizenSpeak is a free web-based advocacy service that allows grassroots organizations to incorporate e-mail campaigns into their communications strategies. With CitizenSpeak, organizations enable their members to e-mail targeted decision-makers one-on-one messages with a single click. CitizenSpeak strengthens organizations' lobbying efforts by putting immediate pressure on decision-makers and by providing reports on participation. CitizenSpeak's Advanced service, with additional capabilities, is available at no charge for a limited time. As a new non-profit organization, CitizenSpeak is dependent on your feedback and donations to continually improve its services. Your support will be greatly appreciated. Call (401) 338-5445 or e-mail info@citizenspeak.org for more information.

Environmental Health News (EHN)

<http://www.EnvironmentalHealthNews.org>

EHN is a daily on-line compilation of news articles worldwide relating to environmental health. It is put out by **Environmental Health Sciences** (EHS), a not-for-profit organization founded in 2002 to help increase public understanding of emerging scientific links between environmental exposures and human health.

Topics covered on EHN include a broad array of issues, including: chemical contamination, water quantity and quality, air pollution, sewage, Mad Cow disease, and genetic engineering, etc. as well as climate change and biodiversity stories with a health dimension, with a special effort to find media coverage of new scientific findings related to these issues. EHN's website contains a "New Science" column featuring paragraph summaries of newly published scientific findings from the peer-reviewed scientific literature, with links to more in-depth synopses at one of EHS's other websites, <http://www.OurStolenFuture.org> (scientific findings specifically about endocrine disruption) or <http://www.ProtectingOurHealth.org> (scientific findings about a broader range of human health and environment-related research). For more info, contact John Peterson Myers, Ph.D. at feedback@environmentalhealthnews.org.

Freecycle™

<http://www.freecycle.org/display.php?region=US%20Northeast>

The Freecycle Network was started in May 2003 to promote waste reduction in Tucson's downtown and help save desert landscape from being taken over by landfills. The Network provides individuals and non-profits an electronic forum to "recycle" unwanted items. One person's trash can truly be another's treasure! The worldwide Freecycle Network is made up of many individual groups across the globe (including about four dozen communities in Massachusetts). It's a grassroots movement of people who are giving (& getting) stuff for free in their own towns. Each local group is run by a local volunteer moderator; membership is free. To sign up, find your community by clicking on the link above and scrolling down to your particular community. Can't find a group near you? You might want to consider starting one (click on "Start a Group" for instructions). Non-profit organizations also benefit from the Freecycle network by getting rid of surplus items or using Freecycle to fulfill all or a portion of the group's "wish list". [For an analogous program involving the exchange of time rather than items, see the **Time Dollar Institute's** web page at <http://www.timedollar.org>.]

Groundspring.org

<http://www.groundspring.org>

Founded in 1999 by the San Francisco-based Tides Foundation (<http://www.tides.org>), Groundspring.org is a nonprofit organization that provides simple, affordable, and integrated services for small to medium-sized nonprofit organizations to help them become effective users of Internet technology in their fundraising and management of donors and supporters. Groundspring.org's mission is to improve the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector by providing information technology solutions that facilitate and enhance communication and engagement between nonprofit groups and their stakeholders. The Groundspring.org website provides free downloadable versions of *Using Online Advocacy*, a guide to understanding online advocacy campaigns, why advocacy works to engage and find new supporters, tips for success, and how to get started; and the *Online Fundraising Handbook*, a 92-page guide for raising funds on-line, making your web site more effective, mining for new donors and much more.

Habitattitude™

<http://www.habitattitude.net>

The Habitattitude website is for aquarium hobbyists, backyard pond owners, water gardeners and others who are concerned about aquatic resource conservation and the threat posed by the inadvertent (or in some cases, deliberate) spread of nuisance aquatic species into natural waterbodies. If these species become established, they can wreak environmental havoc, degrade aquatic resources and make waters unusable for recreation. This issue is relevant to everyone, but especially to those who enjoy aquaria, backyard ponds and water gardens. Increased scrutiny on these activities and their perceived linkages with the growing challenge of invasive species requires such hobbyists to show how they value and protect the environment by preventing the spread of nuisance aquatic species into the natural environment. The Habitattitude website seeks to promote responsible behavior by educating hobbyists on invasive aquatic species and their adverse impacts on natural waterways as well as guidance for safe disposal of unwanted aquatic plants or fish.

IssueSource

<http://www.02133.org>

Formerly called “02133” (the primary zip code for the Massachusetts State House), IssueSource is an on-line tool that gives citizens basic, background information on Massachusetts politics and policy news stories. A not-for-profit, free public service, IssueSource’s mission is to help citizens make sense of the news and navigate the waters of the modern news cycle. In so doing, IssueSource hopes to enable their participation in civic life and to provide one model for how the power of the Internet can be unleashed in the service of civic renewal. Co-produced by **MassINC** (The Massachusetts Institute for a New Commonwealth, a non-partisan, independent, public policy think tank) and the **State House News Service** (a leading provider of news and information on Massachusetts state government), IssueSource is a project of MassINC's Civic Renewal Initiative. IssueSource’s repository of news stories is searchable by topic (Environment/Resources, e.g.); you can also suggest issues for IssueSource to devote more attention to.

Mass. Audubon’s Ecological Extension Service

http://www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/ees.php

The Ecological Extension Service (EES) is a program through which the **Massachusetts Audubon Society** (MAS) shares with conservation partners the considerable expertise MAS has developed in managing its own 30,000-acre sanctuary system. Through EES, MAS is able to assist land trusts, towns, agencies, watershed associations, and private landowners with conservation prioritization, ecological inventory, mapping, trail design, management planning, restoration, research, and interpretation of open space. EES has worked with a variety of open space owners and partnerships on landscapes from 5 to 5,000 acres. The EES web page provides summaries of past EES projects as well as a listing and the respective qualifications of EES personnel. For more information, contact EES Director, Jeff Collins, at (781) 259-2159 or jcollins@massaudubon.org.

Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities (MCHC)

<http://www.masschc.org>

MCHC is a recently formed, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to defend the economic, social, and democratic foundations upon which healthy communities are built. Towards this end, the

Coalition provides networking and coordination services to a diverse array of public interest groups who are working for community protection and improvement. Important elements of a healthy community are health care, social and economic justice, good jobs, education, a clean environment and democratic process. MCHC believes that in America all just power is derived from the consent of the governed, and that communities should be empowered to determine their own destinies within a framework of justice, sustainability, and democracy. Issues addressed on MCHC's web page include mitigating budget shortfalls through tax fairness, the adverse environmental impacts of casino gambling and the potential adverse impacts to local human and natural communities from the auction and subsequent development of state-owned undeveloped land.

Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance

<http://www.ma-smartgrowth.org>

Although Massachusetts's population has been growing very slowly, we are consuming land seven times faster than our population growth rate. Sprawl is overwhelming our traditional Massachusetts landscape of historic cities, lively, compact villages, and bucolic towns. Low density, haphazard development of houses, office buildings, and stores has dire consequences: dwindling water supplies, urban disinvestment, loss of open space and biodiversity, lack of housing choice and affordability, hours wasted in traffic, loss of economic competitiveness with declining quality of life. A collaboration of seven leading nonprofit organizations representing diverse interests (the **Boston Society of Architects**-Civic Initiative for Smart Growth (BSA), **Citizens' Housing and Planning Association** (CHAPA), **Conservation Law Foundation** (CLF), **Environmental League of Massachusetts** (ELM), **Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston** (FHCG), the **Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations** (MACDC), and the **Metropolitan Area Planning Council** (MAPC)), the members of the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance share a common vision of Massachusetts: healthy, diverse and prosperous communities; working landscapes and critical environmental resources protected from development; urban reinvestment and community development; transportation and housing choice and affordability; and regional equity and opportunity. The Romney Administration's explicit commitment to a Smart Growth agenda, along with growing support for Smart Growth reforms in the legislature and in local communities, offers an unprecedented opportunity to make significant achievements in advancing Smart Growth policies and approaches. For more information, contact Alliance Director Kristina Egan at (617) 263-1257 or kristina@ma-smartgrowth.org. [A similar organization, the national **Smart Growth Network**, posts news stories related to smart growth in Mass. at <http://www.smartgrowth.org/news/bystate.asp?state=MA&res=800>].

National Directory of River and Watershed Conservation Groups

http://www.rivernetwork.org/library/index.cfm?doc_id=116

Compiled and updated by **River Network** and the **Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program** of the **National Park Service**, this on-line directory currently lists over 3600 grassroots river and watershed conservation groups, local agencies, and governments active in some form of river and/or riparian land protection, restoration and/or management. Visit this page to find out which groups and programs are active on/in your river/watershed, or to add or update your group's information in the Directory.

Opportunity NOCs New England

<http://www.opnocsne.org>

Published by the **Executive Service Corps of New England**, the Opportunity NOCs web site receives 25,000 visitors per month and is delivered bi-weekly via its free e-mail newsletter to over 7,500 job seekers and nonprofit organizations - a list that continues to grow. Opportunity NOCs New England is committed to helping nonprofit organizations in New England meet their staffing needs by providing affordable recruitment advertising that targets the audience they are trying to reach. This website features extensive links pages to nonprofit organizations and assistance to prospective nonprofit job seekers. Post Volunteer Opportunities, Internships and Board of Director openings at no charge. For more info, contact Mark J. Matluck, Program Director, Executive Service Corps, 38 Chauncy Street, Suite 802, Boston, MA 02111, (617) 357-0849, (617) 423-2510 (fax) or mmatluck@escne.org.

Organizers' Collaborative (OC)

<http://www.organizenow.net/index.html>

Established in 1999, the Boston-based Organizer's Collaborative is a membership organization of activists and technology consultants dedicated to providing social change groups with proven, easy-to-use technology and support that is specific to the needs of organizers. OC provides focused training and assistance coupled with expertise in organizing, technological best practices and free, customized, state of the art software, and an on-line infrastructure to link organizations, individuals and organizing resources. OC's web page provides info on the OCtech e-mail newsletter; OC's free training series on using the free Organizers Database for organizing, member management, volunteer tracking, and fundraising; and Tech Tips, database case studies, a list of technology tools for community organizing, and a comprehensive library of links to web resources on technology and social change. OC also serves as a fiscal agent to three other projects that use the web in innovative ways to promote social change: **CampusActivism.org** - an online clearinghouse for student activists nationally, **NetAction.org** - the publisher since 1998 of a widely known basic training guide for online activists, and **13Myths.org** - a resource for collaboratively publishing fact-sheets.

Runoff Rundown

<http://www.cwp.org>

"Runoff Rundown" is the catchy title for the **Center for Watershed Protection (CWP)**'s electronic newsletter. Anyone with an e-mail address can subscribe to get this free newsletter keeping one up-to-speed on CWP's latest activities. The most recent edition of Runoff Rundown announced the latest installment in CWP's **Urban Subwatershed Restoration Manual (USRM) Series - Manual 4: Stream Repair Practices**. It concentrates on practices used to enhance the appearance, stability, structure, or function of urban streams. An electronic version of the Manual 4, as well as previous manuals in this series (see below) can be downloaded for free for a limited time by going on-line to http://www.cwp.org/USRM_verify.htm. This page also directs you to CWP on-line store where you can purchase a hard copy. [FYI, CWP's USRM Manuals 1, 8, 10, 11 are undergoing a facelift (for formatting and terminology changes for consistency purposes, and a few fixes) and will be released by early February as Version 2.0. The downside of this news is that it marks the end of the free download period for these documents.]

Stone Wall Homepage

<http://stonewall.uconn.edu>

“Stone walls are so much more than boundary markers, abandoned fencelines, elongate rock piles, architectural ornaments, and sources of poetic inspiration. They are the signatures of rural New England. They are landforms. They are icons. The landscape wouldn't be the same without them.” So begins UConn Professor and author Robert Thorson's web page devoted to the heritage and preservation of one of New England's most distinctive yet least appreciated (that is, until they are damaged or destroyed) features of New England's countryside. Thorson's webpage is an on-line excerpt of his several books on the subject (the most recent of which, *Exploring Stone Walls*, a field guide and travel guide for stone walls in the Northeast, is scheduled for publication later this month by Walker & Company) as well as a portal to the **Stone Wall Initiative** (SWI), a web-based clearinghouse providing those interested in stone walls with an opportunity to inquire, share, and join others in supporting the appreciation, investigation, preservation, and educational efforts for this important New England phenomenon. [If this piques your interest, you may also want to visit the web page of the **New England Antiquities Research Association** (<http://www.neara.org>)].

WaterMagazine.com

<http://www.watermagazine.com>

Published more or less regularly since 1999, WaterMagazine.com is a New Zealand-based on-line compilation (from a progressive and innovative perspective) of news and other stories (many not available in the mainstream press) about human-related aspects of water such as drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and greywater. It contains dozens of specially selected articles and papers as well as hundreds of links to other articles, water websites, and book and paper reviews, organized in a topic database. Topics include rainwater harvesting, water reuse/recycling, water conservation tips, demand management, water privatization and many more. Although access to the watermagazine.com website is free, an annual subscription to the weekly electronic newsletter costs US\$35 (unless you provide 5 useful website links or an article – then it's free too). For more info, contact Joel Cayford, Editor, at editor@watermagazine.com.

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CALENDAR

The **Coalition for Buzzards Bay** (CBB) is hosting a program entitled *River Herring Conservation* on **Thursday, February 17, 2005** from 7PM to 9PM at the Wareham Public Library, 59 Marion Road, Wareham. Dr. Martha Mather of UMASS Amherst's Dept. of Natural Resource Conservation will take attendees on a virtual journey through the North Atlantic to discover why river herring stocks are dwindling and how this is impacting the region. As decreasing river herring populations are a big problem here in Massachusetts and Buzzards Bay, learn how local government agencies, environmental groups and citizens are working to restore populations. David Gould, Natural Resources Director for the Town of Plymouth, Dr. Robert Buchsbaum from Mass. Audubon, and John Dixon and George Funnell, Wareham Herring Agents, will describe local restoration efforts to bring back our beloved river herring. Finally, take a look at the future with CBB's Tony Williams who will describe CBB's plans to begin a river herring monitoring program in Buzzards Bay and invite you to take an active role volunteering in this new program. Go on-line

to <http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/events/bay-lectures.htm#horse> for more info.

“*Green Infrastructures for Water in the City*” is the title of a symposium to be held on **Saturday, February 19th** from 10AM-6PM in the Portico Rooms, Gund Hall (Harvard U. Graduate School of Design), 48 Quincy Street in Cambridge. This symposium is free and open to the public and is sponsored by The Harvard Center for Environment, Ecology in Design, the Dept. of Urban Planning and Design, Outside and the Dept. of Landscape Architecture. *Green Infrastructures* is a project-based forum for design professionals, scientists, academics and students of environmental design and policy. The symposium’s diverse panel of guest speakers will present various approaches to the design and implementation of sustainable urban water systems. For more details, contact Natalie DeNormandie at ndenorma@gsd.harvard.edu or go on-line to <http://studentgroups.gsd.harvard.edu/ecology/>.

The *Annual Meeting* of the **Massachusetts Watershed Coalition** (MWC) will take place on **Saturday, February 26** from 8:30AM to 3:00PM at the Woodblock Building, 14 Monument Square, lower level, in **Leominster**. The meeting is open to interested individuals and organizations as well as MWC members. This year’s conference will focus on the emerging framework for proactive watershed management in Massachusetts. One key component is the new **Massachusetts Water Policy** released last November (<http://www.mass.gov/envir/wptf/final.htm>). EOEA Undersecretary for Policy Jim Stergios, who chaired the state’s Water Policy Task Force, will explore how watershed organizations can partner with EOEA to help cities and towns implement the new water policies. This plenary session will also share info about the state’s sustainable development programs, which are supplying funding incentives, tools and guidance to protect aquatic habitats and restore the health of our rivers, lakes and water supplies. The MWC Annual Meeting will also feature updates on other initiatives, including: The **DEP “Environmental Progress Report”** (see blurb below); the **Mass. Instream Flow Task Force**, which is focused on the protection and improvement of local streamflows; and **Low Impact Development (LID)** techniques (see blurb below). The conference will include working sessions on recent publications and **smart growth** tools that can help watershed advocates to protect/restore local water resources (links to completed watershed plans and assessments are at <http://www.mass.gov/envir/water/publications.htm>);. Pre-registration is requested and there is a registration fee (**only \$5** – a great bargain) for meeting refreshments and materials, which can be paid at the door. To register or for more information, please contact MWC Director Ed Himlan at (978) 534-0379 or mwc@commonwaters.org.

The Cutting Edge: Creating and Managing the Ecological Landscape is the title of the **Ecological Landscaping Association’s** 2005 Winter Conference and Eco-Marketplace. ELA bills the event, scheduled for **March 4th and 5th** at the Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center in Marlborough, MA., as “New England’s premier educational conference for the ecologically-minded, attracting a wide audience of landscape professionals, homeowners, community groups, educators, individual gardeners, and more”. This year’s sessions include “Creating Wildlife Habitat in the Landscape”, Invasive Plant Control and Restoration, and “Simple Steps Toward Organic Lawn Care”. More info is available on-line at http://www.ela-ecolandscapingassn.org/winter_conf.htm.

“Earth, Wind, Fire, Water: Exploring the Elements of Education” is the theme for the **Massachusetts Environmental Education Society** (MEES)’s Annual Conference to be held **March 9, 2005** at Holy Cross College in Worcester. Workshops focus on skills, programs and research with reference to the elements. Many of the sessions offered in this year’s conference focus on water, rivers and watersheds. Classroom teachers, naturalists, education administrators and youth group leaders will find sessions to meet their varied needs. Conference registration materials are available on-line at <http://www.massmees.org>. [FYI, **National Environmental Education Week** is **April 10-16, 2005**; find out how to participate at <http://www.eeweek.org/eeweeklinks.html>.]

The **Conway School of Landscape Design** (CSLD) in Conway, MA hosts a weekday evening (7-9PM) series of lectures open to the public on various aspects of environmentally-sensitive design. Upcoming lectures in the series include *“Water Resources and Land Development Processes*, by Mark Nelson of Horsley-Witten, on **Wed. March 9th**; *“Preserving Town-wide Networks of Interconnected Conservation Lands”*, by Randall Arendt, Greener Prospects, on **Thurs. March 24th**; and *“Highlands Initiative: Conservation, Land Planning, Public Education”*, by Jocelyn Forbush of The Trustees of Reservations on **Wed. April 13th**. For more info, contact the CLSD at (413) 369-4044, info@csld.edu or go on-line to http://www.csld.edu/wednesday_speakers.htm.

Mass. Global Action (<http://www.massglobalaction.org>) is hosting a one-day conference entitled *Globalization, Privatization, and H2O* on **Saturday, March 26th** at **Clark University** in Worcester. The focus of the conference is the issue of whether or not the ownership, control and/or operation of community water sources and water and wastewater systems should be in public or private hands. The day’s activities will include speakers, workshops, networking opportunities, and tabling from many organizations working on water issues. Learn from lessons in Lee, Lawrence, and Holyoke MA.; hear from local, regional, national, and international water organizers and organizations. Registration is a very affordable \$10 for this event and can be done at the link above. For more information, call Jonathan Leavitt at (617) 338-9966.

The *Second Massachusetts Forum on Land Use Reform*, sponsored by the **Coalition for Zoning Reform/ Zoning Reform Working Group**, is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 6, 2005**, 10:00 AM – Noon, at Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont Street in Boston (Across from the Park Street T Station). The Forum will provide information and updates about the proposed **Massachusetts Land Use Reform Act** and focus on the land use planning challenges faced by the Commonwealth, why these reforms are needed, and what is involved in moving them from proposed legislation into law. The full text and background material on the Massachusetts Land Use Reform Act, as well as updates on this forum, can be found at <http://www.massmunilaw.org>. For more info and to pre-register for this free event, contact: Don Keeran, at the Association to Preserve Cape Cod, (877)955-4142 (toll-free), (508) 362-4226, (508) 362-4227 (fax), or go on-line to <http://www.apcc.org>.

The 23rd Annual **Run of the Charles Canoe & Kayak Race** is taking place on **Sunday, April 24, 2005**. Join over 1500 paddlers enjoying the improvements to the river while benefiting the **Charles River Watershed Association** (<http://www.crwa.org>). A wide assortment of racing classes enables everyone to

participate and have a chance for a prize. Enjoy the opportunity to paddle through varieties of water, starting in rural countryside and finishing in Boston's famous urban river park. For race registration forms and for information, call (508) 698-6810 or e-mail rotc@crwa.org. Register by **February 19** at 2004 rates! On-line registration is possible at <http://www.active.com> (click on the "individual sports" image and then type "Charles" into the search box).

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PUBLICATIONS

Where Rivers are Born: The Scientific Imperative for Defending Small Streams and Wetlands is the title of a well-written and beautifully laid-out document extolling the virtues of headwater streams and other small-scale hydric habitats. It serves as an eloquently-reasoned justification for why such wetlands and waterbodies need and deserve protection and provides an effective counterargument to efforts made to exclude non-navigable waterways and isolated wetlands and waterbodies from the jurisdiction of the federal Clean Water Act, triggered by the U.S. Supreme Court's "SWANCC" decision rendered several years ago. Over a dozen scientists collaborated on the preparation of this report, which was co-produced by **American Rivers** and the **Sierra Club** and coordinated by Professor Judy Meyer of the University of Georgia. *Where Rivers are Born* is available on-line at

http://outreach.ecology.uga.edu/publications/pdf/scientific_imperative.pdf

Vernal Pools: Natural History and Conservation, is the title of a recently-published book by Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Colburn of the Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA (and formerly with Mass. Audubon). This publication is the first book-length synthesis of the natural history, ecology, and conservation of the seasonally wet pools that occur throughout the formerly glaciated region of eastern North America -- essentially the Great Lakes Basin, New England, and adjacent areas of Canada and the U.S. Introductory chapters define vernal pools; provide overviews of their formation and physical-chemical-hydrological characteristics; and present data critical for assessing, regulating, and managing pool ecosystems. Subsequent chapters explore the biology of microscopic life forms such as bacteria, algae, and fungi and the great variety of higher plants associated with vernal pools, then delve into the descriptions, distributions, habitat requirements and life-history strategies of pool animals, and the ecological processes and patterns associated with the composition and dynamics of pool communities over time. A final chapter discusses research needs and conservation considerations that are a part of the ongoing effort to recognize, understand, protect, and manage vernal pools as viable elements in the landscape of eastern North America. An extensive appendix identifies all animals that have been reported from vernal pools of the region and describes their habitat requirements, geographic distribution, and life history characteristics. An extensive bibliography contains a vast listing of published literature, websites, and unpublished reports. The book's publisher, McDonald & Woodward, is offering the book at a 30% discount through **April 30, 2005** for orders placed directly through them. (Go on-line to <http://www.mwpubco.com/VernalPools-SpecialOffer.htm> for the details.) *Vernal Pools* is available at the discounted price of \$27.97 in hardcover and \$20.97 in softcover (plus shipping). For more info, call (800) 233-8787 or e-mail mwpubco@mwpubco.com. Get yours in time for the next "Big

Night” (see <http://www.bignight.org>)!

Facilitating Watershed Management: Fostering Awareness and Stewardship, the title of a new book edited by Harvard U. Professor of Landscape Ecology Robert France, draws from the watershed management field’s most prominent and innovative practitioners of water-sensitive planning and design and includes essays such as: “Saving Species by Saving Watersheds: Poster Development and Community Participation”, by Mark Chandler; “Taking it to the Streets: Watershed Awareness Efforts Merge With Public Art”, by Lisa Brukilacchio and Jennifer Hill; and “Riparian Pocket Parks as a Means for Physically and Conceptually Connecting People to Urban Waters”, by Kathleen Bullard. This 416-page book, enhanced by having most of its nearly 250 figures accessible in color via the Web, is available at a 20% discount from the publisher, Rowman & Littlefield, by calling (800) 462-6420 or going on-line to <http://www.rowmanlittlefield.com>.

The politics of building dams, levees and other structures are just part of the policies determining how American rivers are managed or mismanaged. America's well-being depends upon the health of those rivers and important decisions go beyond just dam-building or dam removal. American rivers are suffering from poor water quality, altered flows, and diminished natural habitat. Current efforts by policymakers to change the ways American rivers are managed range from the removal of dams to the simulation of seasonal flows to the restoration of habitat, all with varying degrees of success. Efforts to restore American rivers are clearly delineated by Washington U. (St. Louis) Prof. William Lowry in his recently-published book entitled *Dam Politics* as he looks at how public policy and rivers interact, examines the physical differences in rivers that affect policies, and analyzes the political differences among the groups that use them. He argues that we are indeed moving into an era of restoration (defined in part as removing dams but also as restoring the water quality, seasonal flows, and natural habitat that existed before structural changes to the rivers), and seeks to understand the political circumstances that affect the degree of restoration. Lowry presents eight river restoration case studies, including dam removals on the Neuse and Kennebec rivers, simulation of seasonal flows on the Colorado River, and the failed attempt to restore salmon runs on the Snake River. He develops a typology of four different kinds of possible change--dependent on the parties involved and the physical complexity of the river--and then examines the cases using natural historical material along with dozens of interviews with key policymakers. *Dam Politics* provides a useful and systematic account of how American waterways are managed and how current policies are changing. American rivers are literally the lifeblood of our nation. Lowry has written a lively and accessible book that makes it clear as a mountain stream that it matters deeply how those rivers are managed. *Dam Politics* (320pp., \$24.95) is available from its publisher, Georgetown University Press, by going on-line to <http://press.georgetown.edu/detail?id=0878403906>

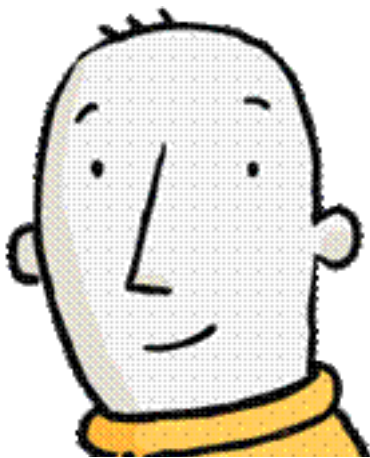
AMC Books, the publishing arm of the **Appalachian Mountain Club**, recently released a revised and expanded edition of its *Quiet Water Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island: Canoe and Kayak Guide*. In this updated version of the AMC’s popular guide, authors Alex Wilson and John Hayes reveal more than 100 spectacular ponds, lakes, and rivers ideally suited for canoeing and kayaking. Special features include: 100 spectacular calm-water destinations — nearly twice as many as the previous edition; detailed descriptions and maps of each pond, lake, and river; new at-a-glance trip summaries that open each chapter for easy scanning of tour details; driving, parking, and put-in directions; locator map for quick reference of trip

locations; and info on local camping and picnic spots. *Quiet Water* (320pp. \$16.95) can be found in many local bookstores or ordered on-line at <http://amcstore.outdoors.org/ab1805000store/index.cfm>.

Hiking the SuAsCo Watershed: Exploring the Woods & Waters of the Sudbury, Assabet & Concord Rivers, by Jill Phelps Kern, is the only comprehensive guidebook for the on-foot exploration of the varied woods and waters within the watersheds of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers. Kern provides hikers, walkers and nature enthusiasts with many opportunities to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of this unique watershed area. A total of thirty hikes are outlined in the book; together they represent a variety of scenery, terrain and hiking challenges. Each hike description includes detailed maps, trail directions, photographs, and inspired commentary. Whether you're an experienced day-hiker, a casual walker with children, or a nature lover who simply seeks the peace of the outdoors, this guidebook offers everything you need to know to start exploring this area. *Hiking the SuAsCo Watershed* (160pp., \$15.95) is available from the publisher, New England Cartographics, by calling (toll-free) (888) 995-6277 or by going on-line to <http://www.necartographics.com>.

Developed by the Boston-based **Environmental Careers Organization** (ECO, <http://www.eco.org>), *The ECO Guide to Careers That Make a Difference: Environmental Work for a Sustainable World* is unlike any other careers book. Reaching far beyond job titles and resume tips, *The ECO Guide* immerses readers in the strategies and tactics that leading edge professionals are using to tackle pressing problems and create innovative solutions. To bring definitive information from the real world of environmental problem-solving, *The ECO Guide* engages some of the nation's most respected experts to explain the issues and describe what's being done about them today. The guide explores issues such as global climate change, biodiversity loss, green business, ecotourism, environmental justice, alternative energy, water quality, green architecture, and twelve other critical issues. To demonstrate even more clearly what eco-work feels like on the ground, *The ECO Guide* offers vivid "Career Snapshots" of selected employers and the professionals that work there. ECO also identifies and describes forty specific jobs that are representative of environmental career opportunities in the 21st Century. It provides dozens of the best Internet resources and insight into current environmental career trends. Read sample chapters from the guide at <http://www.islandpress.org/books/excerpt.html?SKU=1-55963-967-9> and purchase your copy from ECO at <http://www.eco.org/public/ecobooks.html>.

Last but not least:



The **Massachusetts Environmental Trust** (<http://massenvironmentaltrust.org>) provides funding to many river and other water resources protection and restoration projects throughout the Commonwealth. A major source of MET's funding comes from the sale of environmental license plates. Besides the "whale" plate (shown here with "Bob", MET's new marketing icon),

Does your car have an environmental license plate?

$$\langle \dots \rangle = \langle \dots \rangle_{\text{classical}} + \langle \dots \rangle_{\text{quantum}}$$

Margaret Kearns, Watershed Ecologist

Gabrielle Stebbins, RIFLS Technical Assistant

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